

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application as amended. Claims 1, 26 and 32 have been amended to present the claims in better form for allowance and for possible consideration on appeal. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to accept the proposed amendments. Claims 5, 7-25 and 30-31 have been cancelled without prejudice. No new claims have been added. Therefore, claims 1-4, 6, 26-29 and 32-35 are now presented for examination.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejection

Claims 1-4 and 6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as being unpatentable over Szeliski et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,600,491 (“Szeliski”) in view of Bozdagi, et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,493,042 (“Bozdagi”).

Applicants respectfully submit that Szeliski discloses “[a] system . . . for generating a video animation from the frames of a video sprite with user-controlled motion is presented.” (Abstract). Szeliski further discloses that the system includes a “probability distribution [that] is employed to *identify the potentially acceptable transitions between frames of the input video clip*. Prior to actually selecting the order of the frames of the input video that are to be played in a synthesizing process, the number of potentially acceptable transitions that there are to choose from can be pruned to eliminate those that are less desirable and to reduce the processing workload.” (col. 4, lines 61-66; emphasis provided).

Bozdagi discloses a “method for detecting robust fade and dissolve [in] video sequences.” (Abstract).

In contrast, claim 1, in pertinent part recites “creating a video database that includes random samples of transition effects, [and] based on the random samples of transition effects in the video database, dividing the video stream into a plurality of sub-sections.” (emphasis provided). Applicants respectfully submit that neither Szeliski nor Bozdagi teach or reasonably suggest such a feature. Nowhere do either Szeliski or Bozdagi teach or reasonably suggest a video database of random samples of transition effects, and using the a database to divide a video stream into sub-sections. (claim 1). Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 1 and its dependent claims be withdrawn.

Claims 11-13 and 26-35 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as being unpatentable over Wilcox, et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,072,542 (“Wilcox”) in view of Szeliski.

Claims 26 and 32 include limitations similar to those of claim 1. Accordingly, for the reasons stated with respect to claim 1, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 26 and 32 and their dependent claims be withdrawn.

Claims 32-35 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as being unpatentable over Szeliski in view of Bozdagi further in view of Wilcox.

Claim 32 includes limitations similar to those of claim 1. Accordingly, for the reasons stated with respect to claim 1, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 32 and its dependent claims be withdrawn.

Conclusion

In light of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of the claims is hereby earnestly requested.

Invitation for a Telephone Interview

The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (303) 740-1980 if there remains any issue with allowance of the case.

Request for an Extension of Time

Applicants respectfully petition for an extension of time to respond to the outstanding Office Action pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) should one be necessary. Please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 to cover the necessary fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a) for such an extension.

Charge our Deposit Account

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Date: April 18, 2006


Aslam A. Jaffery
Reg. No. 51,841

12400 Wilshire Boulevard
7th Floor
Los Angeles, California 90025-1030
(303) 740-1980